

Rockport Transfer Station



Challenges and Opportunities!

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MassDEP



Introduction

- Last year, the Town applied for a MassDEP Technical Assistance Grant to look at Transfer Station operations.
- The Town was awarded 80 hours in-kind technical assistance.
- This presentation is a culmination of this work.

Rockport has **very generous** trash policies

- 84% of Northeast District 2 munis with trash-recycling programs enforce a trash limit.
- 68% enforce a trash limit of 3 barrels (35 gallon maximum) or less.
- The Rockport transfer station is open 4-5 days per week with no limit to number of visits or how much can be thrown out, with the flat fee sticker.

Trash Limits (Northeast Massachusetts)

2 barrels

3 barrels

4 barrels

5 barrels

7 barrels

WRP

SMART / PAYT

no limit

One bag, barrel, cart not to exceed 35 gallons

PAYT = pay as you throw
WRP= waste reduction program
(residents get 1 "free" barrel up to 35 gallons and must purchase bags/stickers for excess)

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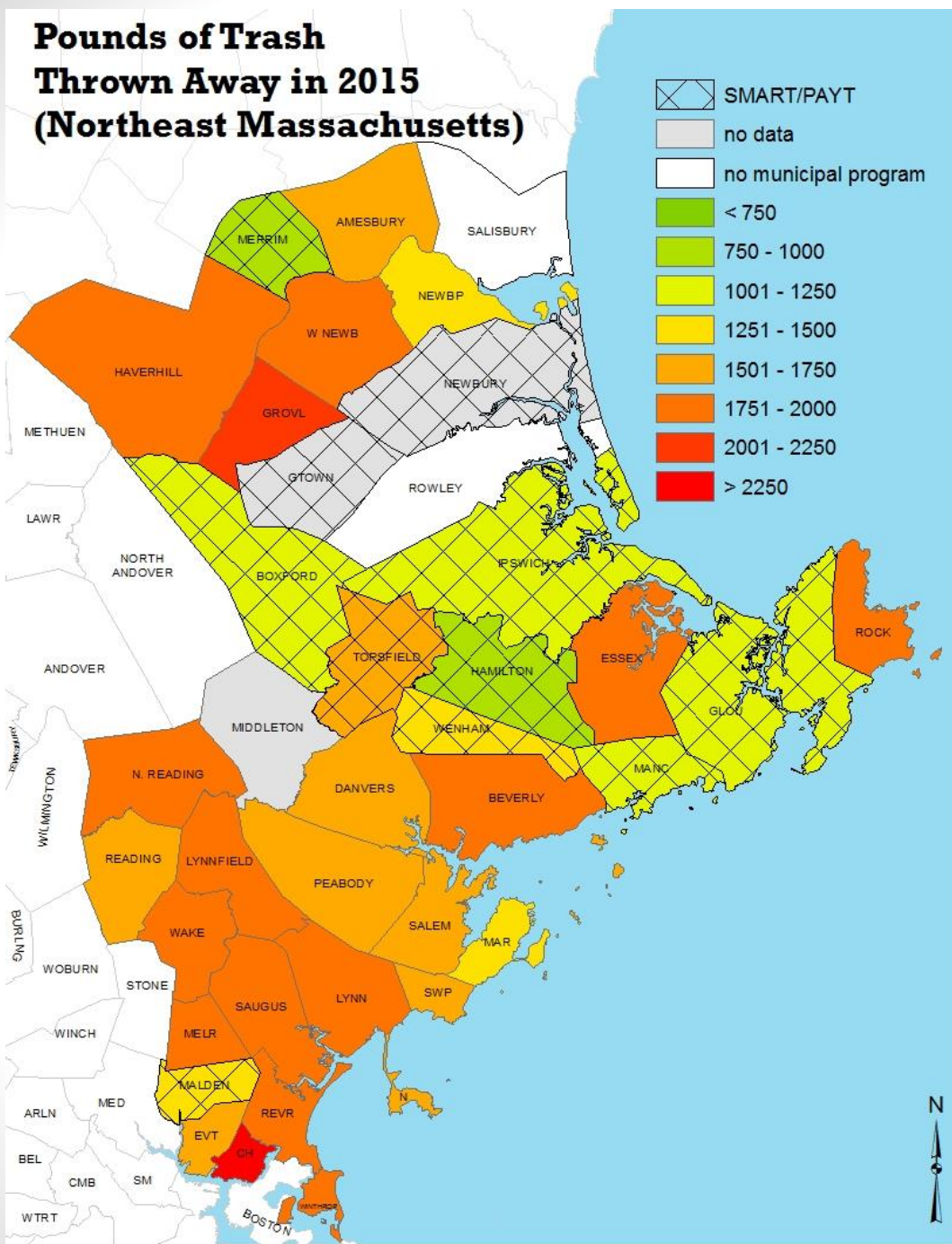
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Mass Trash Pounds Average Per Household

- **Rockport's trash pounds per household are 1801 pounds.**
- PAYT communities average 1073 pounds / household. **40% less**
- ALL communities average 1407 pounds / household. **22% less**

Pounds of Trash Thrown Away in 2015 (Northeast Massachusetts)

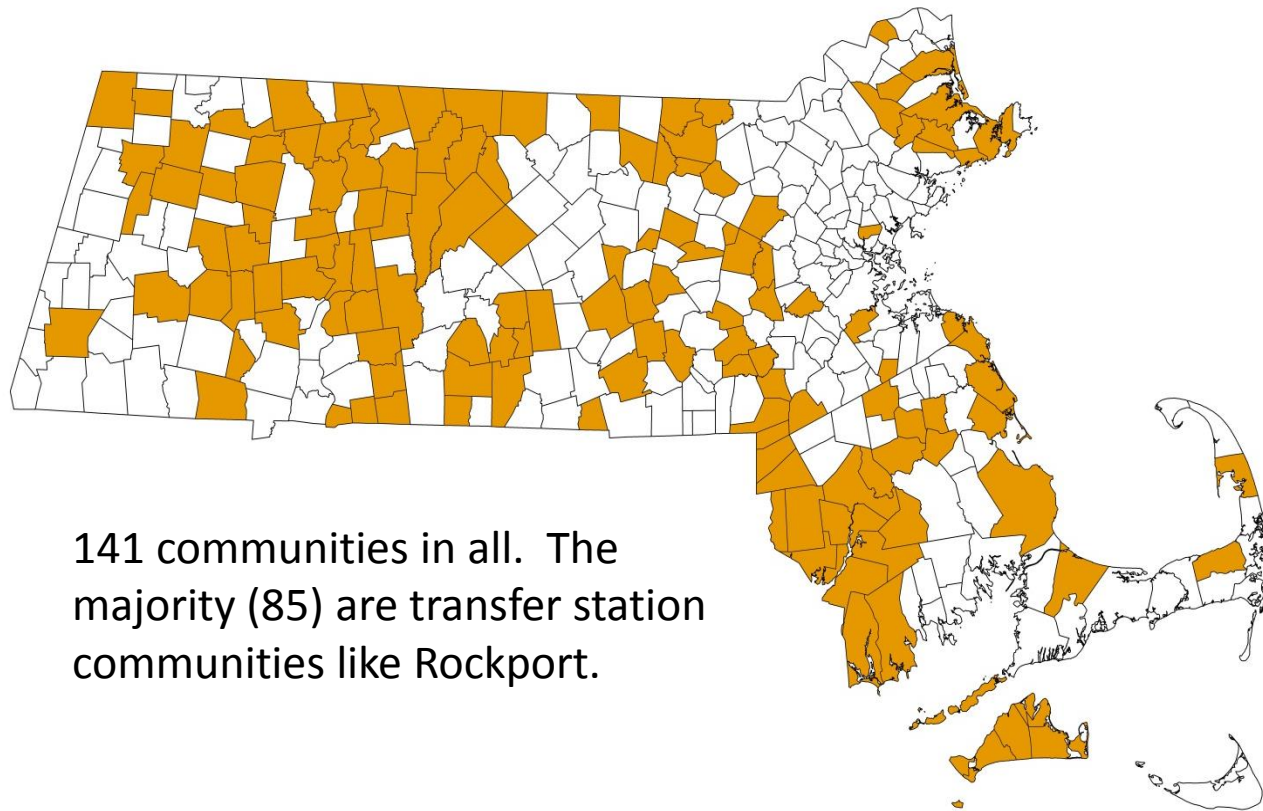


Trash Pounds per Household: How does Rockport compare to its neighbors?

PAYT Benefits

- Reduction in waste disposal (**and associated cost savings**) from 25% to as much as 50%.
- Increase in waste diversion (e.g. recycling)
- Provides an equitable solution for all.
- Traffic volume will decrease improving safety.
- Reduction in illegal use of TS. PAYT easier to monitor / manage because of color-coded bags and less trash.

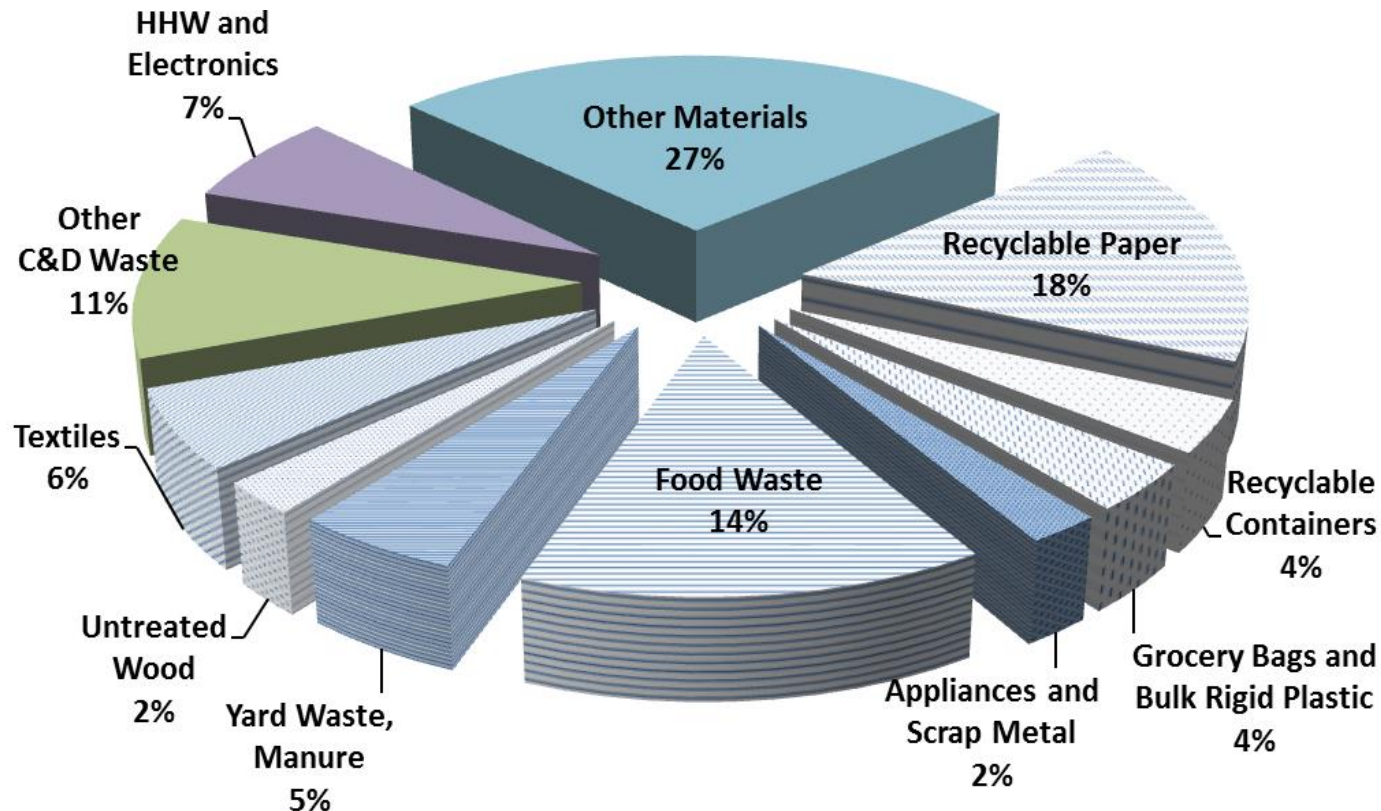
Communities in Massachusetts with PAYT



141 communities in all. The majority (85) are transfer station communities like Rockport.

What is in Our Trash?

- Over half of the trash going to Wheelabrator Saugus could be recycled or composted (2011 Waste Characterization)
- PAYT/SMART programs are one of the best known ways to increase recycling and reuse!



Comparison Community Results

COMMUNITY	TRASH REDUCTION	YEAR PAYT IMPLEMENTED
ACTON	35-40%	2015
BREWSTER	47%	2013
LITTLETON	57%	2010
SANDWICH	42 - 50%	2012
WELLFLEET	35%	2014

Representatives from Rockport DPW visited both the Acton and Littleton Transfer Stations where they saw PAYT in action.

PAYT: How would it work?

- Residents and businesses purchase an annual PAYT sticker to cover operational costs.
- PAYT bags are priced to cover the variable cost of transporting and disposing of trash.
- **Everyone's** trash will need to be placed in an official Rockport blue PAYT bag.
- Recycling is included and unlimited.
- PAYT trash bags can be purchased at Town Hall and local retailers.



How Much Will it Cost Me?

That depends on you!

Rockport offers THREE PAYT bags sizes!

Bag Size	Capacity	2016 Unit Cost	2017 Unit Cost	Yearly Bag Cost if using one per week	Total Cost including PAYT Sticker cost \$55
Small	8 gallons	\$0.40	\$0.30	\$15.60	\$70.60
Medium	16 gallons	\$0.80	\$0.50	\$26.00	\$81.00
Large	39 gallons	\$1.70	\$1.00	\$52.00	\$107.00

*\$250 is 2017-2018 Flat Fee Sticker Cost

Why PAYT for Rockport

- Dual System (flat fee and PAYT) is not working:
 - Sticker abuse with both; you can detect abuse with PAYT.
 - Households who reuse, recycle compost, donate all they can should see their costs go down. PAYT will incentivize TS users to reduce their waste!
 - For seasonal residents and rental properties, PAYT is clear and fair.
 - PAYT is environmentally responsible*.

*[Click Here](#) to learn more

PAYT does not say you cannot throw it away!

It is a system that:

- is fair to all users (you pay for what **you** throw away).
- encourages folks to re-think and reduce what they throw away.
- will improve Transfer Station operations, oversight and enforcement.
- will save or at minimum, control costs for the town and its residents.

With PAYT,

The Transfer Station will:

- be more efficient operationally
- be more efficient financially
- be more equitable
- encourage waste reduction
- be safer
- be cleaner
- be easier to monitor

Thank You.

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